

**LORAIN PUBLIC LIBRARY SYSTEM
LORAIN, OHIO**

BOARD FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

Thursday, June 15, 2023, at 4:00 p.m.
Main Branch
351 W. 6th Street, Lorain, OH 44052

Meeting called to order at 4:02 p.m., Chair McClelland and members Ackerman, Schiemann and Board President Dr. Badillo were present. Trustee Torres arrived at 4:08 p.m. Trustee Snipes-Martin arrived at 4:45 p.m. The meeting adjourned at 4:55 p.m.

Presentation: Lorain Main Library Campus—Ron Cocco, Clark & Post Architects and Garage at Main Library (combined discussion)

Ron Cocco from Clark & Post Architects gave a presentation on the Main Library Campus. Now that the Library has acquired the house on 6th Street and owns from Reid to Washington, it was time to look at the entire block to understand what is possible on the site. Mr. Cocco described the zoning for the Library's property and surrounding properties. According to the City of Lorain, the Library's property is zoned as B-2 (General Commercial), which gives the Library latitude in how it uses the property. To that end, Mr. Cocco said that the Library could build a 9,000 square foot building on the area of property nearest to Washington Avenue. A building of that size could hold offices for the Library with extra space to lease to a community partner. There was discussion regarding the purpose of a separate building and whether expanding the existing Main Library would provide the same benefit.

There was a question regarding the garages that sit on the property and whether they would stay in any future plans. Director Diamond-Ortiz shared that the plan is for the bookmobile garage to stay and tear down the other garage that is quite old. The conversation then turned to the idea of constructing a garage on the Library's property across from the Main Library on 6th Street. Mr. Cocco's firm was engaged to look at the feasibility of a garage on that property. He stated that a garage could be constructed that would house vehicles but given the City of Lorain's stormwater management regulations adding offices to the building would be difficult.

Columbia Future Library Service

Director Diamond-Ortiz shared that the Library is embarking on a community engagement process in Columbia Township. The first step in a community engagement process is to talk with residents about current library service and any expansion to services that they would like to see. To do this, the Library is planning to engage an architectural firm to conduct surveys and community meetings. The Library invited four firms to submit a proposal and expects to start the community engagement process this fall.

Adjournment

Mr. Ackerman moved, Ms. Schiemann seconded to adjourn the Board Finance Committee meeting at 4:55 p.m.

ATTEST:


President


Secretary